



Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

BIENNIAL RULE REGULATING PRAIRIE DOG SHOOTING ON PUBLIC LANDS

By order of Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks and the Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks Commission, the shooting of black-tailed prairie dogs and white-tailed prairie dogs shall be open from March 1, 2004 through February 28, 2005 and March 1, 2005 through February 28, 2006 with the following exceptions:

SEASONAL SHOOTING CLOSURE

Black-tailed prairie dogs -

Shooting of black-tailed prairie dogs occupying public lands other than state school trust lands within the state of Montana will be closed during the months of March, April and May of 2004 and 2005. This seasonal prairie dog shooting closure does not apply to privately owned lands. Landowner permission is required to shoot black-tailed prairie dogs on private land. For shooting privileges on Indian Reservations inquire at Tribal headquarters.

YEAR-ROUND CLOSURES

Black-tailed prairie dogs on BLM lands in south Phillips County designated as black-footed ferret reintroduction areas -

Shooting of black-tailed prairie dogs occupying BLM lands in the portion of south Phillips County described below will be closed year-round, March 1, 2004 through February 28, 2006. Within the approximately 25,000 acres encompassed by the following legal description, approximately 1,300 acres are occupied by black-tailed prairie dogs.

Two portions of south Phillips County:

1) BLM lands within the following described sections of Phillips County designated as the "40 Complex," located between Dry Fork and Beauchamp Creek (encompasses 9 prairie dog colonies):

T24N, R27E: S20, S21, S25, S26, S27, S28, N1/2 and SE1/4 of S29, S34, S35

T24N, R28E: lots 1-4, E1/2W1/2 and E1/2 of S31, S32

T23N, R27E: lots 1-4, S1/2N1/2 and S1/2 of S1, lots 1-4, S1/2N1/2 and S1/2 of S2, lot 1, SE1/4NE1/4 and E1/2SE1/4 of S3, E1/2NE1/4 and NE1/4SE1/4 of S10, S11, S12, S13

T23N, R28E: lots 1-4, S1/2N1/2 and S1/2 of S5, lots 1-7, SE1/4NW1/4, S1/2NE1/4, SE1/4 and E1/2SW1/4 of S6, lots 1-4, E1/2W1/2 and E1/2 of S7, S8, S17, lots 1-4, E1/2W1/2 and E1/2 of S18

2) BLM lands within an area south of Pea Ridge (encompasses 6 prairie dog colonies):

T.22N, R.29E: S9, S10, S11, S13, S14, S15, E1/2 and S1/2SW1/4 of S17, N1/2 and SE1/4 of S20, S21, S22, S23, S24, S 25, S26, S27, S28, S29

T22N, R 30E: lots 1-4, E1/2W1/2 and E1/2 of S18, lots 1-4, E1/2W1/2 and E1/2 of S19, lots 1-4, E1/2W1/2 and E1/2 of S30

White-tailed prairie dogs in a portion of Carbon County:

Shooting of white-tailed prairie dogs occupying public lands other than state school trust lands within the following described portion of Carbon county will be closed year-round, March 1, 2004 through February 28, 2006.

Portion of Carbon County

That portion of Carbon County within the following described boundary: Beginning where the Beartooth highway (Highway 212) crosses the Wyoming state line, then north along highway 212 to its junction with Highway 72 at Rockvale, then south along Highway 72 to Edgar, then east along the Edgar to Pryor Road to the Crow Reservation boundary, then south and east along the Crow Reservation boundary to Bighorn Lake, then south along the west shore of Bighorn Lake to the Wyoming state line, then west along the Wyoming state line to its junction with the Beartooth Highway (Highway 212), the point of beginning. Within this area, white-tailed prairie dogs occupy approximately 120 acres.

These regulations are jointly adopted by Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks and the Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks Commission pursuant to MCA 87-5-105 and MCA 87-1-301(1)a, respectively.

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

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Commission

BY _____
M. Jeff Hagener, Director, FWP

Dan Walker, Chair, FWP Comm.

Date_____

Date_____